

repay this debt, I will do everything in my power to honor SGT Johnson's life and ensure that his legacy lives on forever.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Sergeant La David T. Johnson on the occasion of his induction as an honorary Green Beret.

RECOGNIZING CMSGT BRIAN MARQUARDT ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AFTER 33 YEARS OF HONORABLE SERVICE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Chief Master Sergeant Brian Marquardt of Harrison Township on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force after 33 years of honorable service.

After growing up in Saint Clair Shores, CMSgt Marquardt entered the Air Force in July 1988. After completing basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, he was assigned to the 88th Medical Group at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio for on-the-job training as an Aerospace Medical Technician. His subsequent career includes various aspects of the medical technician field and included Aeromedical Evacuation, Aeromedical Staging and Transportation, and most recently, a ground medical unit with a physical exam package and a shared Air Force Theater Hospital.

His last position was as the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 910th Medical Squadron at Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Ohio. In this role he advised the commander on matters concerning the health, morale, welfare, and the effective utilization of the Reserve members within the squadron. He also served as the commander's representative to numerous committees, councils, boards, and military and civilian functions. Prior to assuming this most recent position, he served as the Functional Manager for the Aerospace Medical Technician career field at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, as well as Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

CMSgt Marquardt has received numerous awards and decorations including Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Unit Award with 2 oak leaf cluster, AF Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and 2 oak leaf clusters, Iraqi Campaign Medal with one service star and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

CMSgt Marquardt has given over three decades of his life in service to our country. I commend him for this selfless display of love and patriotism. He has certainly made his home state of Michigan proud, and I know the example of service he has set will be followed for years to come. I wish CMSgt Marquardt the best as he takes on life's next great adventure. We are so thankful for his service.

TRIBUTE TO DENA BARON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dena Baron, a long-time member of the professional staff of the House Appropriations Committee, who is retiring after more than 25 years of service in the Federal Government.

Dena began her career at the Environmental Protection Agency in 1995. While a budget analyst at the Environmental Protection Agency, she was detailed to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development.

Following her detail, in 1999, Dena became professional staff for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development. In 2004, she moved to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and Treasury until the House Appropriations Committee reorganized in the 109th Congress. Following the reorganization, Dena became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and the District of Columbia.

When the House of Representatives switched control in 2007, and the House Appropriations Committee underwent another reorganization setting the subcommittees to their current form, Dena became Minority Clerk for the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee. Continuing her trend of versatility, Dena simultaneously worked on the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Financial Services and General Government subcommittees.

When the Republicans took control of the House of Representatives in the 112th Congress, Dena became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and then in 2017, she became Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government.

When the House of Representatives switched control in 2019, as only fitting, Dena ventured into uncharted territory and became Minority Clerk for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security. This opportunity presented a range of new challenges, and she, once again, demonstrated her ability to handle any task put before her and performed remarkably.

Dena was an exceptional member of the Appropriations Committee staff for more than twenty years, and she served on my staff for three of those years. I asked Dena to work on some of the most divisive issues of the day, and she saw us through one of the longest government shutdowns in history two years ago by finding common ground with her colleagues.

Dena has spent many hours away from her loved ones over the course of her long Federal career, and I know she is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Jim Smith, her son, Andrew, and her daughter, Emily. Dena will be greatly missed, and I wish her the best in her next chapter and thank her for her dedicated service to the United States.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN J. MENNES FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE DURING HIS TENURE AT FORT DRUM

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Brian J. Mennes for his service to the United States of America over the course of his 33-year career with the U.S. Army and his two years in command of Fort Drum in Northern New York, which I proudly represent.

Major General Mennes graduated from the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York in 1988 and immediately commissioned into the U.S. Army as an Infantry officer. Since then, MG Mennes has deployed three times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and five times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition to leading the famed 10th Mountain Division, MG Mennes has also served in the storied 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. A highly decorated officer, MG Mennes is known for his exceptional leadership skills, commitment to his soldiers and families, and ability to cultivate a supportive community. MG Mennes easily fit into the culture of the North Country and leaves Fort Drum after changing it for the better.

During his tenure at Fort Drum, Major General Mennes was influential in ensuring his soldiers were combat-ready while building a strong support system within the community. He led the 10th Mountain Division through an Afghanistan deployment and drawdown as the U.S. prepares to bring our troops home after nearly twenty years in the country. In addition, MG Mennes has faced unprecedented challenges in commanding Fort Drum through the Coronavirus pandemic where he was responsible for the lives, health, and safety of thousands of soldiers, families, and civilians.

On behalf of New York's 21st district and the entire Fort Drum community, I would like to thank Major General Mennes for his exceptional leadership and continued investment in his community. I congratulate him on his achievements thus far and wish him the best of luck during his next assignment at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

HONORING COLONEL ANDREW J. SHORT

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Colonel Andrew J. "Coby" Short, who is relinquishing his command of the Pittsburgh District of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he has served since 2018. Colonel Short came to the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps, following an assignment at the U.S. Army War College. Colonel Short is a native of Bedford, Indiana. Following his graduation from the U.S. Army Military Academy with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Systems Engineering, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1997.